WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A process for the finishing treatment of a fibrous web, characterized in that an adhesive composition formed of polymer(s) comprising a combination of optionally partially or completely hydrogenated saccharides is applied to said web, said combination of saccharides having a glucide spectrum exhibiting:

- a content of monosaccharides and disaccharides of less than or equal to 30%,

- a content of oligosaccharides with degrees of polymerization (DP) of between 3 and 9 of greater than or equal to 30%,

- a content of polysaccharides with a DP at least equal to 10 of less than or equal to 70%,

these percentages being expressed as dry weight with respect to the dry weight of the whole of the combination of saccharides.

2. The process as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the combination of saccharides has a content of monosaccharides and disaccharides (DP equal to 1 or 2) at most equal to 28%, preferably of between 0.5 and 28%.

3. The process as claimed in either of claims 1 and 2, characterized in that the combination of saccharides has a content of oligosaccharides with a DP of between 3 and 9 of between 30 and 70%, preferably between 35 and 60%.

4. The process as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that the combination of

saccharides has a content of polysaccharides of DP ≥ 10 of between 25 and 70%, preferably between 25 and 65%.

5. The process as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that the finishing treatment is carried out in an aqueous medium.

6. The process as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 5, characterized in that the fibers constituting the fibrous web are predominantly cellulose fibers.

7. The process as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6, characterized in that the polymer or polymers of the adhesive composition is or are soluble or easily dispersible in water.

8. The process as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 7, characterized in that the combination of saccharides is present in the adhesive composition in an amount of between 0.01 and 100%, preferably between 0.1 and 20% and more preferably still between 0.2 and 10%, this amount being expressed as solids content with respect to the dry total adhesive composition.

9. The process as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 8, characterized in that the adhesive composition applied exhibits a solids content (SC) of between 0.5 and 75%, preferably between 1 and 50% and more preferably still between 2 and 20%.

10. The process as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 9, characterized in that the finishing treatment consists of a surface treatment, pigmented surface treatment or coating operation.

11. An adhesive composition of use in the finishing treatment of a fibrous web, characterized in that it comprises a combination of optionally partially or completely hydrogenated saccharides exhibiting:

- a content of monosaccharides and disaccharides (DP of 1 or 2) of less than or equal to 30%,

- a content of oligosaccharides with a DP of between 3 and 9 of greater than or equal to 30%,

- a content of polysaccharides with a DP at least equal to 10 of less than 70%,

these percentages being expressed as dry weight with respect to the dry weight of the whole of said combination of saccharides.

12. The adhesive composition as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that it has a content of oligosaccharides from DP 3 to DP 9 of between 0.03% and 14%, these percentages being expressed as dry weight with respect to the dry weight of said composition.

13. An improved fibrous web, characterized in that it has, on one and/or other of its faces, a deposited layer of an adhesive composition as claimed in either of claims 11 and 12, which may or may not be pigmented, said deposited layer being produced in an amount, expressed as solids content, of between 0.05 and 15 grams/m^2 of paper or flat board, preferably of between 0.2 and 10 grams/m^2.

14. The improved fibrous web as claimed in claim 13, characterized in that it comprises an amount of oligosaccharides from DP 3 to DP 9 of between 0.001 and 20 g/m^2, preferably of between 0.01 and 5

g/m^2 and more preferably still of between 0.1 and 1 g/m^2, or a proportion of these same oligosaccharides from DP 3 to DP 9, with respect to the weight of the paper, of between 0.0001 and 10%.